

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1468

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

PARIS TAKE AS ACTION ADDEE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, DA, FR  
SUBJECT: JORGENSEN REACTION TO GISCARD'S CONTINUED DISSATISFACTION

RE PRESS CLUB REMARKS

REF: COPENHAGEN 1391

1. SUMMARY: UPON HIS RETURN FROM THE US PRIMIN JORGENSEN WAS CONFRONTED WITH GISCARD'S EXPRESSION OF CONTINUED DISSATISFACTION WITH JORGENSEN'S REMARKS ON THE FRENCH ELECTION OUTCOME. JORGENSEN BASICALLY REITERATED HIS EARLIER "CLARIFICATION" AND SAID HE SAW NO REASONT TO "APOLOGIZE". THE MFA, IN WAITING FOR THE NEXT SHOE TO DROP, IS WORRYING THAT THE FRENCH MAY USE ALL THIS AS A LEVER TO HAMPER DANISH EC PRESIDENCY INITIATIVES UNPALATABLE TO THE FRENCH. END SUMMARY.
2. DANISH PRIMIN ANKER JORGENSEN RETURNED YESTERDAY EVENING (MARCH 1) FROM HIS TEN-DAY VISIT TO THE US TO ENCOUNTER A BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING HIS NATIONAL PRESS CLUB REMARKS ABOUT THE

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OUTCOME OF THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

3. JORGENSEN MET THE LARGE NUMBER (FOR DENMARK) OF REPORTERS ASSEMBLED AT THE AIRPORT AND OPENED WITH A 15-MINUTE VERY POSITIVE REVIEW OF HIS TRIP IN THE US, INCLUDING HIS MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON (SEPTTEL). THE JOURNALISTS,

HOWEVER, BASICALLY IGNORED THAT (AS DID TODAY'S MEDIA) AND INSTEAD BORED IN ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE FRENCH-DANISH EXCHANGES ON JORGENSEN'S PRESS CLUB REMARKS.

4. THE LAST WORD SO FAR, JORGENSEN WAS TOLD, WAS A STATEMENT FROM PARIS AFTER THE MARCH 1 CABINET MEETING. ELYSEE SPOKESMAN PIERRE HONT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE FRENCH PRESIDENT DOES NOT REGARD THE PRIMIN'S CLARIFICATION AS "SATISFACTORY".

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, JORGENSEN REPEATED THAT HE HAD HAD NO WISH TO MIX IN FRENCH INTERNAL AFFAIRS, THAT WHAT HE SAID WAS MISUNDERSTOOD, BUT THAT AN APOLOGY WAS NOT JUSTIFIED. (THE "NO APOLOGY" THEME WAS THE HEADLINE TODAY IN ONE OF COPENHAGEN'S LEADING DAILIES.) HE REPEATED EARLIER STATEMENTS THAT HE BELIEVED IT WAS NECESSARY TO EXPRESS HIS OPINION THAT A VICTORY BY THE FRENCH LEFT-WING WOULD NOT IMAPIR EC COOPERATION. OTHERWISE, SAID JOR-GENREN, PEOPLE IN THE US MIGHT HAVE BELIEVED THAT HE THOUGHT TO THE CONTRARY.

6. MFA EURCPEAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR FRIIS-MOLLER TOLD CHARGE AT THE AIRPORT THAT JORGENSEN HAD BEEN WARNED TO EXPECT THIS QUEST-IONING UPON HIS ARRIVAL AND THAT THE MINISTRY HAD ADVISED HIM TO TAKE THE LINE HE FOLLOWED. AT LUNCH TODAY ANOTHER MFA OFFICIAL TOLD POL COUNS THAT JORGENSEN WOULD PURSUE THE SAME RATIONALE IN A CLOSED MEETING THIS AFTERNOON WITH THE FOLKETING'S FOREIGN CONFIDENTIAL

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AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. IN THAT VENUE, HOWEVER, JORGENSEN WILL EXPAND HIS REMARKS SOMEWHAT, HE WILL RECALL RECENT CTATEMENTS BY FRENCH PRIMIN BARRE WARNING THE FRENCH ELECTORATE OF THE DAMAGING EC CONSEQUENCES OF A SOCIALIST VICTORY. JORGENSEN WILL ASSERT THAT THIS ASSESSMENT IS NOT SHARED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NINE AND HAS BEEN VENTILATED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT FOR PURELY DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS.

7. THE MFA IS NOT SURE WHAT THE NEXT STEP IN ALL THIS WILL BE. THE ELYSEE SPOKESEAN IN MAKING THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT THE WHOLE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER VIA DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. FOR THE MOMENT, OUR MFA SOURCES SAY, THEY ARE WAITING FOR THE OTHER SHOE TO DROP AND ARE UNDERTAKING NO FURTHER DANISH INITIATIVES. THE MINISTRY, HUEVER, DOES CONTINUE TO WORRY (PARA 6 REFTTEL) ABOUT THE EFFECT THIS AFFAIR WILL HAVE ON THE DANISH EC PRESIDENCY. BASICALLY, THE DANES SEEM TO BE CONCERNED THAT THE FRENCH WILL USE THEIR DISPLEASURE WITH JIRGENSEN'S PRESS CLUB STATEMENT AS A LEVER TO HAMPER DANISH PRESIDENCY INITIATIVES THEY DO NOT AGREE WITH. DEAN

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